



**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6**

# **GOLD KING MINE SPILL Resource Plan**

**Operational Period(s):**

**Starting:**

**August 7, 2015**

**Ending:**

**TBD**



## USEPA – Region 6 Resource Plan

- I. Purpose:** This Plan was develop to identify the resource requirements necessary for a rapid and robust deployment to meet the expected needs of this emergency response action. Guidelines contained within this plan will be utilized to identify personnel and equipment needs of the region 6 response activities.
- II. Situation:** On August 5, 2015, an EPA team working to investigate and address contamination at the Gold King Mine in San Juan County, Colorado, unexpectedly triggered a large release of mine waste water into the upper portions of Cement Creek. Initial estimates are that the release contained approximately one million gallons of water that was held behind unconsolidated debris near an abandoned mine portal. There were several workers at the site at the time of the breach, all were unharmed.

From Cement Creek, the slug of contaminated mine water entered into Animas River and then into San Juan River in New Mexico. With Region 8 being the lead-region, Regions 6 and 9 entered into an Area Command Structure to address the threats to public health and the environment.

### **III. Mission Assignments.**

There are no FEMA Mission Assignments. Each Region will utilized its regional removal funds until further arrangements can be made.

### **IV. EPA Staffing to support ER Operations - Phase 1**

- A. REOC Staffing. This staffing is based upon the resources needed to support the initial ramp up, assessment and planning stages of the disaster response; Phase 1. Additional personnel resources will be ordered as necessary to support the operational objectives of the REOC. REOC is currently being staffed with 12-hour operations with 15 personnel. See Attachment A: ICS 203 - Organization Assignment List.
- B. Field Operations: Resources Deployed as of August 7, 2015 (EPA & Contractors)

Task	Resources		
	EPA	Contractor	Equipment
Water Sampling at water intakes along the Rivers	2 OSC	9 START	Mobile Command Post
Assistance with water sampling	2 R6-WQ		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 EPA R6</b>	<b>9 START</b>	<b>MCP</b>

#### V. EPA Staffing to support ER Operations - Phase 2

A. Field Operations Staffing. Additional resources to staff the field activation to meet the needs of the response will be evaluated on a daily basis and requested through the ICS 213 RR process. The anticipated operational tasks may include:

1. Sediment sampling.
2. Sample private water wells.
3. Provide bottled water to residents with contaminated well water.
4. Provide water via tank truck for livestock with contaminated water.

#### B. Anticipated Resource Requirements

**REOC:** In addition to the Staffing resources identified in Phase I, another 4 START Contractors are needed for data management tasks.

**Joint Information Center - (JIC):** 2 CIC

#### **FIELD RESOURCES:**

Task	RESOURCES			
	EPA	START	ERRS	Equipment
Sediment Sampling	1 OSC 3 RSC	6	4	3 Boats
Water Wells	1 OSC 3 RSC	3	-	
Provide bottled Water	1 OSC, 4 RSC	-	4	4 Pickups
Provide livestock water via water truck	1 OSC, 3 RSC	-	3	3 Water Trucks
Data Management	-	3		Fixed Command Post
Overhead		1	3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 OSC 13 RSC</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	